

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph on page 1, lines 11-20 with the following amended paragraph:

In a high pressure pump of a gasoline direct injection engine, the leakage of gasoline from the clearance must be minimized by reducing the clearance of the plunger sliding in the cylinder bore in, for example, several microns or less, in order to compress low viscosity gasoline to a high pressure. To ensure that the gasoline leaking from the clearance escapes to the low pressure side, a cylindrical groove and transverse aperture connected to the low pressure side are ~~commonly provided halfway through~~ spaced from the ends of the bore.